

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please enter the following amendments to the claims without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows:

1-51. (Cancelled)

52. (Currently amended) ~~The method as claimed in claim 41,~~ A method for the transformation of plastid genomes, comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a transformation vector carrying a DNA sequence of interest and a selection marker;
- b) subjecting a plant material derived from *Asteraceae*, which comprises plastids, to a transformation treatment in order to allow the plastids to receive the transformation vector;
- c) placing the thus treated plant material for a period of time into contact with a liquid culture medium without a selection agent;
- d) subsequently placing the plant material into contact with a liquid culture medium and adding a selection agent to the culture medium comprising the plant material, wherein the selection marker is a visual marker; and
- e) refreshing the liquid culture medium comprising a selection agent to allow plant material comprising plastids that have acquired the DNA of interest to grow into transformants.

53. (Previously presented) A method for the transformation of plastid genomes of a plant species, comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a transformation vector carrying a DNA sequence of interest, and one or more selection markers;
- b) subjecting a plant material derived from *Asteraceae*, which comprises plastids, to a transformation treatment in order to allow the plastids to receive the transformation vector;
- c) placing the thus treated plant material for a period of time into contact with a culture medium without a selection agent;
- d) illuminating the treated and cultured plant material with an appropriate light source corresponding to the selection marker, wherein the selection marker is a visual marker; and
- e) selecting the plant material that shows the visual marker.

54-90. (Canceled)

91. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 52, wherein the visual marker is a fluorescent marker.

92. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 91, wherein the fluorescent marker is green fluorescence protein.